

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The office action of April 9, 2003 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-3, 5-11, 15-24, 26, 28-32 and 36-55 remain pending in this application. New claim 56 has been added.

Claim 20 has been amended to correct a minor grammatical error. Claims 28, 47 and 55 have been amended to improve clarity.

Claims 1-3, 5-11, 15-24, 26, 28-32 and 36-55 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent no. 6,191,758 to Sang-jin Lee ("Sang-jin Lee") in view of U.S. patent no. 6,112,215 to Kaply ("Kaply"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1-3, 5-11, 15-19, and 36-46

The action contends that Sang-jin Lee shows all the elements of independent claims 1 and 36, but for an input user interface dedicated to the auxiliary display unit and configured to receive inputs allowing user interaction with the second application in response to the second information being displayed on the display. To overcome this deficiency, the action relies on Kaply.

To allegedly show the claimed feature of an input user interface dedicated to the auxiliary display unit and configured to receive inputs allowing user interaction with the second application in response to the second information being displayed on the display, the action states that Kaply describes a "user interface adapter (22) through which various forms of input devices are interconnected. See Fig. 1." Regarding the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Kaply, the action goes on to contend that one skilled in the art would have modified "Sang-jin Lee's computer system to include Kaply's user interface adapter. One would have been motivated in view of the suggestion in Kaply that the user interface adaptor (22) provides the desired additional input user interface." Even assuming, but not admitting, that one would have combined Sang-jin Lee and Kaply as alleged in the action, the resulting combination would not have resulted in the invention of claims 1 and 36.

Kaply shows in Fig. 1 and describes a computer having a plurality of input devices including keyboard 24, trackball 32, and mouse 26 for inputting information to a CPU 10 through an interface adapter 22 and system bus 12. If one skilled in the art were to combine Sang-jin Lee and Kaply, the resulting computer system would have included multiple input devices capable of receiving user commands for interacting with an active application regardless of whether the main display device, auxiliary display device or both the main and auxiliary display devices were responsible for displaying the active application. Significantly, the combination does not result in an input user interface *dedicated* to the auxiliary display unit as called for in claims 1 and 36. Rather, a keyboard, mouse and trackball in the proposed combination would be used to interface with both the main display device unit and auxiliary display device, but no single input device would be dedicated to the auxiliary display device. For at least this reason, independent claims 1 and 36 are patentably distinct from the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Kaply.

Claims 2, 3, 5-11, 15-19 and 37-46, which ultimately depend from claim 1, are considered allowable for the same reasons set forth above and further in view of the additional novel features recited therein. For example, the applied art does not provide a teaching or suggestion of the auxiliary display unit being physically remote from the main display unit as recited in independent claim 36 and claims 43 and 44, which ultimately depend from claim 1. Also, claim 44 further recites that only one of the auxiliary display unit and the main display unit can be seen by a single user at a single moment in time due to the physical proximity of the main display unit and the auxiliary display unit.

In addition, claim 7 calls for the display of the auxiliary display unit being larger than the display of the main display unit, a feature that is not taught or suggested by the applied art. The action relies on Fig. 1, elements 10 and 12 of Sang-jin Lee to show this feature. However, inspection of Fig. 1 of Sang-jin Lee reveals that the display of the main display unit is much larger than the display of the auxiliary display unit. Also, the applied art lacks 1) a teaching of the input user interface being configured to receive user authorization information from a user, 2) the user authorization information being processed to determine whether the user is authorized to change a variable associated with the second application as recited in claim 38 and the input user

interface being configured to receive user authorization information from a user, and 3) the user authorization information being processed to determine a level of interaction with the second application for which the user is authorized as recited in claim 39. To show these features, the action points to col. 5, ll. 11-14 and Fig. 2 of Sang-jin Lee and indicates that a keyboard controller along with a serial interface device communicates with an external interface device. However, applicants see no correlation between these portions of Sang-jin Lee or any other portions of Sang-jin Lee or Kaply, which suggest the features recited in claims 38 and 39.

Claims 20-24 and 26

Independent claim 20 is directed to a method of controlling the display of information associated with an active application in a computer system having a host computer, and a first display unit and second display unit coupled to the host computer. The claim 20 method includes determining whether the second display unit has available capacity to display information associated with the application, sending the information associated with the application to the second display unit for display when the second display unit has available capacity, and sending the information associated with the application to said first display unit for display when the second display unit has no available capacity to display the information.

Applicants submit that the action's proposed combination of Sang-jin Lee and Kaply, even if proper, fails to result in the claim 20 feature of determining whether a display unit has *available capacity* to display information associated with an application. Applicants note that the action does not provide a discussion as to how the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Kaply applies to the features called for in claim 20.

In any event, Sang-jin Lee provides no such teaching or suggestion of determining whether a display unit has *available capacity* to display information associated with an application as recited in claim 20. Indeed, Sang-jin Lee merely describes making a determination regarding "which display device is selected according to the display selection information of the application program or display selection information input by the user." Col. 5, ll. 45-48. Kaply does not even consider or otherwise contemplate determining whether a display unit has available capacity to display information as recited in claim 20.

Thus, for at least this reason, the proposed combination of Sang-jin Lee and Kaply does not render obvious the invention of independent claim 20 and claims 21-24 and 26, which depend from claim 20.

Claims 28-32 and 55

Independent claim 28 is directed to a method for use in a computer system having a host computer, a main display unit coupled to the host computer, and an auxiliary display unit coupled to the host computer, the auxiliary display unit being a standalone unit including a display and an input user interface. The method includes, among other features, displaying a graphical user interface associated with an application on the display of the standalone auxiliary display unit, receiving an input from a user through the input user interface of the standalone auxiliary display unit, the input requesting second information associated with the application, and displaying the second information on the display of the standalone auxiliary display unit.

The combination of Sang-jin Lee and Kaply neither teaches nor suggests an auxiliary display unit being a standalone unit including an input user interface. The auxiliary display device 24 of Sang-jin Lee does not show or otherwise suggest a standalone unit including an input user interface. Sang-jin Lee shows a keyboard 26 for receiving user input commands, but the keyboard is not part of a standalone auxiliary display unit as recited in claim 28. Kaply does not remedy this defect as there is no teaching or suggestion of the user interface adapter 22 of the keyboard 24, mouse 26, or trackball 28 being part of a standalone auxiliary display unit. Thus, it follows that the proposed combination of Sang-jin Lee and Kaply lacks a teaching of receiving an input from a user through the input user interface of the standalone auxiliary display unit, the input requesting second information associated with the application as recited in claim 28. For at least these reasons, claim 28 and claims 29-32, which ultimately depend from claim 28, are considered patentably distinct from the applied art.

Regarding claim 55, since the applied combination does not teach or suggest a standalone auxiliary display including an input user interface, it follows that the combination does not suggest a computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions including receiving input through the input user interface of the standalone auxiliary display unit for

controlling aspects of a second active application represented in the graphical user interface and requesting second information associated with the application as claimed. For at least this reasons, claim 55 is patentably distinct from the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Kaply.

Claims 47-53

Independent claim 47 calls for, among other features, a personal computer, an auxiliary display unit coupled to the personal computer and including a processing unit for receiving and processing instructions received from the personal computer and a modem configured to couple the auxiliary display unit to an external network responsive to instructions received from the personal computer or the processing unit, without connecting to the external network through the personal computer.

The action alleges that the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Kaply results in the invention of claim 47. Apparently, to show the auxiliary display unit including a processing unit and modem as claimed, the action relies on Sang-jin Lee. Sang-jin Lee (Fig. 2) shows a main display device 22, an auxiliary display device 24, and a computer body 20 having a CPU 202, an auxiliary display controller 218 and a serial interface portion 222, the serial interface portion 222 connected to an external RS232C device. In contrast to Sang-jin Lee however, the claim 47 personal computer system includes a personal computer, a main display unit and an auxiliary display unit, the *auxiliary display unit including a processing unit and a modem*. Nowhere in Sang-jin Lee is there any suggestion that the auxiliary display device 24 includes a processing unit and a modem as called for in claim 47. Moreover, the external RS232C device is directly connected to the computer body 20 and not the auxiliary display device 24. In stark contrast, in claim 47 the modem couples the auxiliary display unit to the external network without connecting to the external network through the personal computer. Kaply is wholly devoid of any teaching or suggestion to remedy these defects of Sang-jin Lee.

For at least these reasons, the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Kaply does not result in the inventions of claim 47 or claims 48-53, which ultimately depend from claim 47. The dependent claims call for other advantageous features that are neither taught nor suggested by the applied art. For example, claim 51 recites that the personal computer and the auxiliary display

unit are separately addressable by the external network and claim 52 recites that the personal computer and the auxiliary display unit can independently and contemporaneously communicate over the external network or different external networks without sharing the same bandwidth.

Claim 54

To show the claim 54 invention, the action relies on the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Kaply Lee. Claim 54 calls for an auxiliary display unit configured to receive and display information associated with a task bar or system tray of an operating system running on a host computer which is neither taught nor suggested by the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Kaply. Apparently, the action relies on Sang-jin Lee to show this feature. Yet, Sang-jin Lee merely describes that main application programs may be displayed on the main display device 10 and auxiliary application programs thereof may be displayed on the auxiliary display device 12. However, an auxiliary display device displaying an auxiliary application program does not provide a teaching or suggestion of an auxiliary display device displaying information associated with a task or system of an operating system running on a host computer as recited in claim 54. Kaply fails to overcome this deficiency. Indeed, Applicants are unclear as to what feature of claim 54 the action alleges can be found in Kaply. In any event, claim 54 is patentably distinct from Sang-jin Lee alone or in combination with Kaply.

New claim 56

New claim 56 is fully supported by the specification and allowable over the art of record. In addition to being allowable for the same reasons as base claim 1, claim 56 further recites that the auxiliary display unit is a standalone unit including the display and the input user interface.

Appln. No.: 09/556,982
Amendment dated July 1, 2003
Reply to Office Action of April 9, 2003

CONCLUSION

A Fee Transmittal is attached. If any additional fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

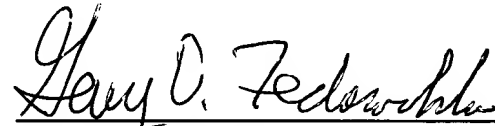
All rejections having been addressed, applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: July 1, 2003

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